# Tidings

Concordia University Pagan Society June 1998 Volume 3, Number 2

## How to Reach Us

### At Our New Office

7141 Sherbrooke St. W.,
Room SC-03-3 (Loyola)

*Office Hours*
Wednesdays 2:00 till oblivion

### By Phone

(514) 324-9316 General Info
(514) 749-1834 Interviews & Research
(514) 848-7467 Office Hours only
(514) 848-7474 CSU (messages only)

### By Mail

Our "snail-mail" address remains unchanged.:
1455 de Maisonneuve West
Suite H-637-3
Montreal, QC, H3G 1M8

## Why the Heck....?

CUPS is adding a new dimension to its monthly General Meetings: discussions on a variety of topics of interest to Pagan folk. Join us for discussion, musing & lively debate. Come out & just listen. Suggest a topic for an upcoming meeting!

Next meeting:

Friday, May 29th
7 p.m. at Le Mélange Magique,
1928 Ste. Catherine W.

*Topic: Pagans are often described as "earth-centered" or "land-based". But are these expressions synonymous with "environmentally friendly"?*

## Returning to an Old Look

Those of you who have been reading *Tidings* for a while will notice this "old look." We're reverting to this version in preparation for the release of our new quarterly journal, *The Witch Towers*, will soon be available, and many of the features you have found in *Tidings* will now be part of it.

A second change to *Tidings* is that last year's editor, Dimitra Bernard, has resigned in order to devote more time to her studies. We at the Writers' Guild would like to thank Dimitra for her tireless service, and we wish her the very best in her new endeavors. You'll be greatly missed on our staff, Dimitra, but we'll look forward to seeing you around CUPS!

## June's Happenings

### June 10th & June 24th Bardic Circle

7 p.m. at 7141 Sherbrooke W.
Room SC-03-3

Join Linda for two entertaining evenings of song and poetry. Please bring your bardic contribution (a song, poem or story to share,) feast food, and feast gear. Contact Linda at 259-8916 if you need more information.

### June 13th Witchcraft 101: What is a Witch?

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at 7141 Sherbrooke W.
Room SC-03-3

Join Laurie for a lively discussion of just what a Witch is. Look at the difference between "Witch" and "Wiccan," explore the roots of "Pagan," and discover the basic traits of both Paganism and Witchcraft. This lecture is the first in a series of four in the Witchcraft 101 course. Take all four, or just drop in for one or two! For more information, please contact Laurie or call 324-9316.

### June 27th Witchcraft 101: A Witch's Holy Days

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at 7141 Sherbrooke W. Room SC-03-3

This second lecture in the Witchcraft 101 series takes a look at the Witches' Sabbats and Esbats, and the solar and lunar cycles from which they are derived. If you'd like more information about this or any of the lectures in this series, please speak to Laurie or call 324-9316.

## Bulletin Board

* CUPS will be holding its annual elections at the end of the summer. Nominations are now open for the posts of President, Vice-President, Scribe (Secretary,) and Purse Warden (Treasurer.) If you would like to run for any of these offices, or if you would like to nominate someone, please speak to one of the executive or come to a general meeting.

**Executive officers must be Concordia undergraduate students (part-time or full-time) as of September 1998.** Nominees should prepare a few words about themselves and why they are running, to be delivered at the general meeting.

## Important Dates

### June 10th Full Moon

The full moon occurs in Sagittarius ♐ at 12:18 a.m. today. Moon goes void of course at 1:08 p.m., and enters Capricorn ♑ at 8:50 p.m.

### June 21st Sun Enters Cancer ♋

Cancer ♋ is a cardinal water sign, ruled by the moon ☽. Cancerians are very sentimental folks and set down deep roots when they settle in one place for any period of time, which helps to explain their love of the past and their frequent needs to reminisce. Sun enters Cancer ♋ at 10:03 a.m. today.

### June 21st Litha (Summer Solstice)

This day is the longest one of the year - so enjoy it! After this, the days begin to get shorter, even though our weather is getting warmer - and daylight savings time is adding a little extra to our enjoyment of the sunlight hours. Litha, under the name of Midsummer, is a time for fairies and enchantments; Shakespeare's play *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is just one popular reminder of that fact. If you would like to leave out a gift for the wee folk in your neighbourhood, tonight's a great night for it. Keep in mind that they love cream.....

### June 21st Father's Day

It's quite appropriate that the day we celebrate fathers & fatherhood should fall this year on midsummer, since the solstice is a festival of the sun, a masculine symbol of many things including fatherhood. Remember your dad today; bring a little sun into his life!

### June 23rd New Moon

New moon occurs at 11:50 p.m., in Cancer ♋ this month.

### June 24th St. Jean Baptiste

La Fête Nationale has its roots in the old European celebrations of the Eve of St. John, which in turn had their roots in the celebrations of Midsummer. Political themes for the holiday have come into being since the Quiet Revolution, when the Church lost much of its power over the Québecois people.

### About Tidings:

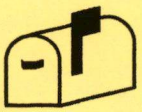
*Tidings* is a free newsletter published by the Concordia University Pagan Society (CUPS) on the last week of each month.

Announcements of interest to the Pagan community will be printed free of charge. Submissions for upcoming issues must be received by 5 p.m. on the following dates: June 19th, July 17th.

**You Won't be at the University this Summer? Subscribe to Tidings!**

We'll make sure you never miss an issue. Even if you'll be out of town you'll want to know what's happening at CUPS.

How to subscribe? Send us a cheque for $10/year (to cover envelopes & postage), made out to **Concordia University Pagan Society,** along with your name & mailing address.



solstice:
ME, fr. OF,
fr. L *solstitium*,
fr. *sol* sun + *status*,
pp. of *sistere* to come to a stop, cause to stand
(Webster's Ninth New Collegiate)

*As the earth revolves around the sun, from any given vantage point on the planet it appears that the sun is moving around us. The imaginary path the sun "follows" is called the ecliptic.*

*The points farthest north & south on the ecliptic, parallel to the Tropics of Cancer & Capricorn respectively, are when the summer & winter solstices occur.*

*As the sun reaches these far north & south positions, it appears to stay in the same place for a few days at a time, hence the name solstice - "the sun stands still."*